

FALLS CHURCH RECREATION & PARKS DEPARTMENT
223 LITTLE FALLS STREET
FALLS CHURCH, VA 22046

2010 COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The Falls Church Recreation & Parks Department's program will be divided into two different divisions. The "A" Division is designed for experienced teams with above average skills wishing to play in a competitive program. The "B" Division is intended as a recreational league, with less emphasis on winning. As a general rule teams with players also participating in Fairfax County's top 8 division or Arlington County's top 2 divisions should register for Falls Church's "A" division. Standings will be kept and t-shirts will be awarded in all divisions. **IF AN INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF TEAMS REGISTER FOR ANY OF THE THREE DIVISIONS, THE DIVISIONS MAY BE COMBINED.**
2. Players must be 16 years of age or older by April 1, 2010.
3. The deadline for entering a team into the Falls Church league is April 18, 2010.
4. **A franchise fee of \$450.00 plus \$10.00 per non-Falls Church City resident (not to exceed \$150.00) will be charged; the franchise fee must be paid by April 18, 2010.**
** NOTE: ** Fairfax County residents with Falls Church mailing addresses are subject to the \$10.00 non-resident fee.
5. The Falls Church Recreation & Parks Department's 2010 Softball League is limited to the first thirty-five teams that submit registration forms and payment. Registration is strictly on a first come basis.
6. Team rosters are limited to 20 players and should be comprised of approximately 50% of each sex.
7. No changes will be permitted on the roster after the third game of the season.
8. No player may play for more than one team under the jurisdiction of the Falls Church Recreation & Parks Department.
9. **League games will begin the week of May 16th and run through late-July.**
10. Teams should wear like-colored jerseys. Numbered jerseys are encouraged but not required.
11. Teams should try to have five men and five women in the lineup at all times. A team may start a game with eight players. If more men than women are playing, then the team must take an "out" for each empty spot in the batting order. No team may play with more than 5 men at a given time. Teams may field more women than men (example: 6 women, 4 men) with no penalty. At no time may a team play with less than eight players.
12. A ten-minute grace period from the regularly scheduled starting time shall be permitted in order to assemble the required number of players for **only** the first game of the day. The grace period counts as part of the game time. Teams playing games other than the first of the day at a given location will not be allowed a grace period; to be on the safe side all teams are urged to be on time. Teams not able to start on time will be required to forfeit.
13. Teams forfeiting two games may complete their regularly scheduled games but will automatically be eliminated from tournament contention. No refund of the franchise fee will be given.
14. Games will not be postponed for any reason other than inclement weather or unfit playing conditions of the field in which case games will be postponed by the Recreation & Parks Department or the officials before the game starts or by the officials after the game is in progress. A game in progress suspended for rain or other cause – before a regulation five innings (4 ½ if the home team is ahead) have been played – is subject to a twenty-minute delay. After 20 minutes the game may be postponed; it will be rescheduled by the Recreation & Parks Department. See item 16 (below) for additional information on rescheduled games.
15. All games have a one hour and five minute time limit. Any inning started prior to the time limit must be completed unless the home team is ahead. No new inning may start when five minutes or less of the time limit remains. **Games may end in a tie.**
16. Any game in which either the 5 innings (4 ½ if the home team is ahead) are completed or the one hour and five minute time limit is fulfilled represents a complete game and will count in the standings. **Games not meeting either the time limit or the correct number of innings will be postponed and the remainder of the one hour five minute time limit will be completed at the later date to be scheduled by the Recreation & Parks Department. It is the home team's responsibility to have the umpire verify how much playing time has elapsed and to have the umpire attest to this in the home team scorebook.**
17. A double elimination tournament will be held at the conclusion of the regular season for the top four teams from each division (depends on the amount of teams in each division). Only players having played in three regular season games are eligible for the tournament. Sponsor plaques and individual T-shirts are given to the top two teams in the tournament.
18. Games will be played in accordance with ASA Slow Pitch Softball Rules except where amended by special league rules below:

- a) The offensive lineup may begin with either sex but thereafter the sexes shall alternate. If a team starts with nine players there will be a repetition of women in the lineup.
 - b) When substituting, women must substitute for women, and likewise for men.
 - c) Metal spikes shall not be worn by any team member. The penalty for wearing them is ejection from the game.
 - d) It is the responsibility of the base runner to avoid a collision with a defensive player who is in possession of the ball and is waiting for the runner. If the runner remains on his/her feet and collides with the defensive player, the runner will be declared out and ejected from the game. If the collision was deliberate in the umpire's judgment, the runner shall be suspended for an additional game.
 - e) **With two outs only, when a male player is walked, the female batting next has the option** of "taking a walk" or completing her turn at bat. In either case the male player that was walked automatically advances to second base.
 - f) Women will hit an 11" ball; men will hit a 12" ball.
 - g) **All games will be played with a 3-2 count for all batters.** Instead of four balls for a walk and three strikes for an out, a batter will walk on three balls and strike out on two strikes. There will be one "courtesy" foul ball allowed per at bat.
 - h) The "no poaching rule" will not be enforced.
 - i) Positions on the field do not have to be alternated according to sex. (For example, if a woman is catching, it does not matter whether a man or woman is pitching.) A team may also play with four men in the outfield if it so chooses.
19. The home team shall be responsible for the official scorebook and new balls—one "11 ball (for women to hit) and one 12" ball (for men to hit). The visiting team must supply one playable 11" ball and one playable 12" ball acceptable to the umpire. Any ASA approved ball shall be acceptable. No white-stitched balls will be allowed. Core - .44 balls
20. For more information, please call the Falls Church Recreation Department at 248-5077.

CONDUCT REGULATIONS

Coaches, managers, players shall not:

1. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time lay a hand upon or shoving an official or facility supervisor. **Penalty:** suspension from all sport activities sponsored by the Falls Church Recreation and Parks Department for a period of two years.
2. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time dispute an officials decision. **Penalty:** Warning by official and/or ejection from the game. If ejected, the person is suspended from the next game his/her team plays.
3. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time be found guilty of gross misconduct. **Penalty:** Will be suspended for the remainder of the season and no refund on the fees will be given.
4. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time make an abusive verbal attack upon any official, facility supervisor, scorekeeper, player or spectator. **Penalty:** Ejection from the game and suspension from the league until his/her case has been reviewed. Probationary reinstatement is possible.
5. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time refuse to abide by an official's decision. **Penalty:** Ejection from game and suspension from the league until his/her case has been reviewed. Probationary reinstatement is possible.
6. Coaches, managers, players shall not at any time use unnecessarily rough tactics in the play of the game against the body or person of an opposing player. **Penalty:** Ejection from the game and suspension from the league until his/her case has been reviewed. Probationary reinstatement is possible.
7. Any coach, manager or player who is ejected from the game is automatically suspended from the next game his/her team plays. A second offense by the same person will result in additional disciplinary action as directed by the league. This rule is not subject to protest or review.
8. Any coach, manager or player who is placed on probationary status and is reported again for violating the "Code of Conduct" or league rules will be given a minimum penalty of suspension for the remainder of the season.
9. Teams are responsible for the conduct of their spectators. Failure to attempt to control disruptive spectators may result in forfeiture to the opposing team.
10. Smoking is prohibited in all school/public grounds (indoors and outdoors)
11. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited on all school/public grounds (indoors and outdoors)

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223 LITTLE FALLS STREET
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2010 SPRING ADULT COED SOFTBALL LEAGUE

NAME OF TEAM _____

TEAM SPONSOR (if applicable) _____

COACH _____ HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____ FAX # (if have) _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADDRESS _____

ASSISTANT COACH _____

FRANCHISE FEE PAID _____ NON-CITY FEE PAID _____

DATE AND TIME FEE SUBMITTED TO R & P DEPARTMENT _____

(R & P STAFF SIGNATURE)

(COACH'S SIGNATURE)

Please fill out this form out completely!

This form must be submitted with the franchise fee of \$450.00 no later than April 18, 2010.

The non-city fee of \$10 per player for a maximum of \$150 is due by the second week of games.

PLEASE CHECK ONE: the R & P Dept. will attempt to accommodate all requests

777701-A _____ Open "A" (plays Sundays, Mondays, Wednesdays)

777703-A _____ Open "B" (plays Sundays, Tuesdays, Thursdays)

If your team has any special requests, please list them below:

The R & P Dept. will attempt to honor your requests.